

PENNSYLVANIA DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH
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Pennsylvania's Prescription Drug Monitoring Program –
Additional Tools and Resources



DATE:	08/22/2016
TO:	Health Alert Network
FROM:	Dr. Karen Murphy, Secretary of Health
SUBJECT:	Pennsylvania's Prescription Drug Monitoring Program – Additional Tools and Resources
DISTRIBUTION:	Statewide
LOCATION:	Statewide
STREET ADDRESS:	n/a
COUNTY:	n/a
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ZIP CODE:	n/a

This transmission is a “Health Advisory”: provides important information for a specific incident or situation; may not require immediate action.

HOSPITALS: PLEASE SHARE WITH ALL MEDICAL, PEDIATRIC, INFECTION CONTROL, NURSING, AND LABORATORY STAFF IN YOUR HOSPITAL

EMS COUNCILS: PLEASE DISTRIBUTE AS APPROPRIATE

FQHCs: PLEASE DISTRIBUTE AS APPROPRIATE

LOCAL HEALTH JURISDICTIONS: PLEASE DISTRIBUTE AS APPROPRIATE

PROFESSIONAL ORGANIZATIONS: PLEASE DISTRIBUTE TO YOUR MEMBERSHIP



Valuable tools are at your fingertips.

In order to help you use the Pennsylvania Prescription Drug Monitoring Program (PA PDMP) effectively, please visit the program's [website](#) for these and more resources:

- **[PA PDMP tutorial](#):** Learn how to navigate and conduct a patient query using the PA PDMP, as well as how to identify red flags [here](#).
- **[Clinical resources toolkit](#):** To support you during the adoption of this new program, the PA PDMP office developed a toolkit of resources to help medical professionals fully utilize the PDMP, including prescribing guidelines, screening tools, and treatment resources.

- [Opioid prescribing guidelines](#): In partnership with the Pennsylvania Department of Drug and Alcohol Programs, the Department of Health has convened the multi-stakeholder Safe and Effective Prescribing Practices Task Force to create seven evidence-based [opioid prescribing guidelines](#) for prescribers and dispensers across the commonwealth.

Valuable clinical data will soon be searchable through Pennsylvania's new Prescription Drug Monitoring Program.

Starting **Aug. 25, 2016**, medical professionals registered for Pennsylvania's new PDMP will be able to access valuable data that will help inform clinical decisions and combat the opioid and heroin epidemic.

Registration for the PA PDMP system is **now open** — [click here to get started!](#)

Registration is a straightforward process. **You will also be able to grant access to delegates** employed by you or under your supervision to check the system on your behalf. To learn more about who can be your delegate, please visit the [PA PDMP website](#). You will also find [tutorials on how to register](#) on the website.

Registering for the PA PDMP is the critical first step to accessing valuable clinical information to spot the warning signs of addiction, doctor shopping, and drug diversion.

The PA PDMP will increase the quality of patient care by giving prescribers and pharmacists access to their patients' controlled substance prescription history. Most importantly, you will be able to identify patients struggling with substance use disorder, so that you can help them get the treatment they need.

Together, we can save thousands of Pennsylvanians from opioid abuse, heroin use and overdose death

[Click here to register for the PA PDMP system.](#)

Please visit the [PA PDMP website](#) for the latest updates on the program. The site offers a general Q&A page, more details for dispensers and prescribers, and contact information for the PA PDMP office.

Categories of Health Alert messages:

Health Alert: conveys the highest level of importance; warrants immediate action or attention.

Health Advisory: provides important information for a specific incident or situation; may not require immediate action.

Health Update: provides updated information regarding an incident or situation; unlikely to require immediate action.

This information is current as of August 22, 2016, but may be modified in the future.
